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present to the Society from the author some years ago. Mr. Hemmenway kept up his intense interest in the subject of peace to the very end of his life, writing his encouragement and approval to the younger workers in the cause. The editor of this paper has been the recipient of a number of such letters in recent years, and has greatly appreciated the approval and encouragement contained in them. John Hemmenway was born at Freeport, Maine, December 30th, 1814. He had lived for many years, until last autumn, at St. Anthony Park, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and had lately gone with his son to reside at Tacoma, Washington.

**War and Fire.** The New York *Evening Post*, commenting on the gallantry of the firemen at the burning of the Windsor Hotel, says:

"We do not know of a more terrible form of danger than a great fire. It far surpasses any other form, except very rare incidents in a battle, in the things which shake the nerves and appall the imagination. There is about a fire none of the pomp and pride and circumstance of war; no drums, or trumpets, or uniforms, or serried files, or admiring women, nothing but bare duty and sympathy for other people's danger and suffering. There is no hated foe to be stricken down, or "glory-crowned heights" to be scaled, or dominion to be asserted. There is no property of a dastardly enemy to be burnt or fields to be laid waste. There are simply life and property to be saved, mostly by men acting alone amid smoke and flame, in the face of many unseen dangers, without encouragement from comrades or commanders, and with little prospect of "glory" at the end.

Now, the thing to be observed and remembered in all this is, that, frightful as this service is in many ways, comparatively little praise as there is to be had for it, there has never, in the history of the country, been lack of men for it. No fire brigade has ever been organized without finding abundance of recruits for it. More than this, we cannot recall a single case in which the firemen had to be censured for shrinking from danger in any form in which a fire presents danger. We can recall no case in any part of the country in which a fireman recoiled from any risk which gave valor any part to play. The same thing has been true of life-boat men, of searchers for the lost and strayed, and of buried miners, of rescuers, in short, of every kind, from the perils created by nature alone. . . . There could not be a better answer to the fallacy which does so much service among Jingoes, male and female, that to elicit a man's highest qualities you need to give him a "foe"—that is, something to kill or destroy, instead of something simply to save or succor. From this fruitful source flows two-thirds of the blather-skite one hears about the value of war as an improver of character. . . . Some go so far as to maintain not only that bearing arms and serving in the wars improve character, but that, unless a man takes a turn at them every now and then, character runs down. . . . Now, the curious thing about this notion is, that it has no support from human experience. There is no record of men having lost their courage from want of foes to kill, or, in other

words, want of war, which, when deprived of its fine names, is simply destruction of the lives and property of people whom you have never seen and who have done you no injury. Valor is the product of moral training derived from parents, schools, good institutions. . . . In short, the notion that a man cannot be brave without what Mr. Dooley calls "a crool foe" is a complete delusion. If he has grown up under a religion which develops his sense of responsibility to his Creator, and in a community in which justice is well administered and the public funds honestly spent, he will meet any form of danger he is called on to meet, with the highest efficiency, like our firemen. He does not need to be constantly hoisting flags and reading about war and heroes, and dining in honor of war, and mourning because the decent, industrious Christian young men of his acquaintance have not an opportunity to kill somebody or burn any houses."

### Brevities.

A man of integrity runs with truth, and not with the times—with right and not with might.—*William Penn.*

. . . Edward Atkinson, of Boston, has just published under the title, "Criminal Aggression: by Whom Committed?", a very searching analysis of the responsibility of the Administration for the present dreadful situation in the Philippines. The pamphlet may be had by addressing him at Boston, box 112, and enclosing five cents.

. . . On the 12th of March Rev. B. Fay Mills delivered in his regular course of sermons in Boston a powerful "Plea for Permanent Peace." The sermon has attracted wide attention, not only because of its eloquent advocacy of peace and its appeal for support of the Conference at The Hague, but because of its severe arraignment of the treatment which the Filipinos are receiving at our hands. Copies of the sermon may be had for five cents by addressing Morris Lefcowitch, 41 Rutland Square, Boston.

. . . The Universal Peace Union of Philadelphia is holding tri-weekly meetings for two months at its rooms on Arch Street to promote interest in the coming Conference at The Hague.

. . . Negotiations for reciprocity treaties with France and Germany have been resumed by Mr. Kasson since the suspension of the labors of the United States-Canadian Commission of which Mr. Kasson is a member.

. . . The Women's International Disarmament League at Paris, which now has 250,000 adherents, has undertaken a plebiscite in all the countries where the League has representatives with a view of getting the signatures of all who favor the idea of international disarmament, or reduction of armaments, as proposed by the Czar of Russia.

. . . Rev. C. E. Harrington, D.D., pastor of the Congregational Church at Waltham, Massachusetts, preached a powerful sermon against war on the 12th of March, making the Czar's rescript his text. The sermon was printed nearly in full in the *Waltham Daily Free Press-Tribune* of March 15th.

. . . The Spring meeting of the Commission of the International Peace Bureau will take place at Berne, Switzerland, on the 5th of May. This will be one of the most important meetings which the Commission has ever held, in view of the approaching Conference at The Hague.

. . . The Reform Bureau of Washington, D. C., of which Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts is superintendent, makes "the substitution of arbitration and conciliation for both industrial and international wars" a part of its program. The Bureau is coöperating earnestly with other organizations to promote the success of the Czar's Conference both in "reducing burdensome armaments" and in "establishing a permanent Supreme Court of the United States of the World,"

. . . A vigorous editorial in the *New England Magazine* for December, entitled "Organize the World!", by Edwin D. Mead, has been reprinted in pamphlet form and may be had at the Peace Crusade office, 1 Beacon St., Boston, at \$1.50 per hundred copies.

. . . Mr. Witte, the Russian Minister of Finance, is reported to have said: "If my colleagues in the War and Navy Departments make further demands upon me for their armies and their fleets, I shall simply invite them to read the rescript of our Emperor."

. . . A dispute of sixteen years standing between Italy and Persia, which at one time caused a diplomatic rupture between the two countries, has finally been settled by arbitration. The arbitrators appointed by the King of Sweden, to whom the dispute was referred, have decided that the claims of Italy were groundless and have given the award in favor of Persia.

. . . A banquet of the French Peace Societies was held at Paris on the first of March, more than one hundred representatives of the different associations throughout France being present.

. . . At Munich two thousand persons took part in a great meeting on the 8th of March, at which, after a number of fervid addresses, a resolution was voted in favor of disarmament.

. . . The annual meeting of the Hungarian Peace Society was held at Buda-Pesth on the 22d of February under the Presidency of the distinguished Hungarian author, Maurice Jokai. Strong action was taken, not only in favor of the initiative of the Czar but also against the duel as inimical to "internal, national and social peace."

. . . Great activity is shown by the peace societies in Italy. A new peace journal, *Pro Pace*, has been started at Turin, and the question is being discussed of a general Peace Secretaryship for the whole of Italy. The Press Association of Rome is holding a series of meetings in the interests of the proposition for disarmament.

. . . In Holland a great peace meeting of from four to five thousand persons has been held at Amsterdam, in the Palace of Industry, at which many phases of the question of peace were discussed by distinguished speakers.

. . . "How to make our Country Great and Glorious" is the title of a most valuable discourse, now in pamphlet, of Rev. J. T. Sunderland, Oakland California, in which he argues forcibly that America ought to take the lead among the nations in promoting the cause of peace.

. . . Mr. Stead takes advantage of the Peace Crusade to belittle the non-resistants, and the work of the peace societies for the last eighty years—of which he knows practically nothing. Without the work of these societies no Czar's manifesto would ever have been issued, and Mr. Stead would not have had the pleasure of riding a wave which he had originally nothing to do with creating.

. . . The increase in the British army and navy estimates for the current year is about twenty-two million dollars, carrying the annual expense of the military establishment up to nearly two hundred and fifty million dollars.

. . . The American Humane Education Society, the annual meeting of which was held last month in Boston, has now 36,148 bands of mercy, 4,167 new ones having been formed within the year, in different parts of the world.

. . . Cecil Rhodes, the toughest imperialist of them all, says that the people of the United States are taking to imperialistic colonization "like mothers' milk." He prophecies that, for lack of islands, the United States will within a century take under their control "by force of arms" all the Western Hemisphere—except Canada!! The pity of it is that we have too many people like Cecil here in our midst.

## The Voice of God to America.

BY ELIZABETH E. FLAGG.

I gathered your tribes together  
When ye were a little flock;  
I fed you with wheat the finest,  
And honey out of the rock.  
My pillar of cloud before you,  
The guide of your wilderness road,  
I led you in ways ye knew not,  
To reap where ye had not sowed.

But was it for this, my people,  
I clave you a path through the sea,  
That ye might in turn be spoilers,  
And others may bow the knee?  
An unknown god ye have chosen—  
Call him Destiny—or Greed;  
Ye have learned a later gospel  
Than the fathers' outworn creed.

So this is "the white man's burden";  
Nor let it cause amaze,  
If judged by the Old World's judgments:  
When ye run the Old World's ways;  
In hate of peoples unwilling,  
In treasures of blood and gold,  
Ye shall pay the price with usury,  
To the utmost farthing told.